



PREPARE FOR THE FUTURE

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Retail customers look over some of the \$3 million worth of underutilized and excess Hanford equipment for sale. GB Assets of Richland, a new company formed by three former Hanford employees, is disbursing the equipment through retail, auction and direct-business sales under a contract with the Tri-Cities Asset Reinvestment Company.

Workmen help transfer an unneeded 20-ton gantry crane from Hanford's Central Waste Complex to SunStraw Northwest of Walla Walla. SunStraw will use the crane in the manufacture of strawboard.

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Economic Transition

Local economic growth and diversification is supported in more ways than just equipment and asset transfer. For instance, a \$50,000 grant from Fluor will help the Tri-Cities Visitor and Convention Bureau continue its “Bring ‘em Home” campaign, first funded by Fluor. The 2000 campaign brought \$6 million in new conventions to the Tri-Cities, with a \$13-million economic impact on the community. And with grant-writing help from Fluor Hanford’s Economic Transition staff, the Port of Pasco recently secured \$900,000 for telecommunication improvements that will provide broadband services to Pasco.



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Volpentest HAMMER Training & Education Center

Initial testing of the Pit Viper was successfully completed ahead of schedule at HAMMER. Deploying the new technology is a collaborative effort by the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory (PNNL), waste tanks contractor CH2M HILL Hanford Group, Numatec Hanford, HAMMER, and DOE's Tanks Focus Area and Robotics Crosscut Program. The Pit Viper is a robotic arm mounted on the end of a backhoe that will enable vital cleanup work in tank-farm valve pits where high levels of radiation previously made it impossible for people to enter or where entry was limited to short time periods. As PNNL senior development engineer Michael Catalan demonstrates, workers safe inside a nearby trailer will remotely control the Pit Viper's end effectors, which can be used to cut, grab, grind, scrape, lift and spray. By modifying the existing HAMMER waste tank prop, Hanford avoided the cost of building a testing and training facility for the project. A recently signed agreement underscores Fluor Hanford and PNNL's commitment to increase partnering between HAMMER and PNNL for testing of new technologies and training.



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Firefighter candidates go through the paces of a physical ability test recently held by the Hanford Fire Department at HAMMER. The Center's facilities and staff capabilities make it useful for a wide range of training forums. In May, the Washington State Emergency Management Division's Hazardous Material Workshop, brought to HAMMER by the Federal Emergency Management Agency and the state patrol's Fire Protection Bureau, attracted not only Hanford firefighters but more than 80 other fire, law-enforcement, tribal and industry attendees. Classes covered drug labs, explosives awareness, pesticides and chemicals. Future plans call for an expanded workshop to include Oregon and Idaho participants.

Volpentest HAMMER Training & Education Center

